



LCC INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT



2023-2024

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Faculty and Staff, August 2023

*“Blessed are the bridge-builders in a war-torn world,
for they are God’s children working in the family
business.” (Matthew 5:9)*

MISSION STATEMENT

LCC International University provides Christian liberal arts education within a diverse learning community that transforms people for servant leadership.

VISION STATEMENT

To be the leading Christian liberal arts university in Europe, renowned for its flourishing academic community, spiritual vitality, and global impact.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are many ways to describe LCC International University.

We don't use **countercultural** as an excuse. It's not an excuse to avoid the hard work of adapting and remaining relevant, or of maintaining excellence as defined by our accreditors and our peers, or of ensuring the highest standards for our students and faculty and staff.

We mean that LCC is part of the **upside-down** world that Jesus taught us, focused on a different set of values, a different definition of success. His words as stated in the Beatitudes in Matthew 5 offer a profound reordering. The verse that has been our focus at LCC in 2023-2024 is this:

*"Blessed are the bridge-builders in a war-torn world,
For they are God's children
working in the family business."**

As you walk through the pages of this Annual Report, notice the themes of peacebuilding, of thriving as an international community, of research and teaching and collaboration, of reconnecting with alumni.

We are grateful for each person who is part of the global LCC community.

Thank you to those of you who are generous donors to LCC. Our students have been impacted. Thank you to those of you who are faithful in prayer for the LCC community. Thank you to our partners in Klaipeda, in Lithuania, in Europe, in North America, and around the world. We are better together.



Marlene

Marlene Wall, PhD
President

LIBERAL ARTS
CHRISTIAN
INTERNATIONAL
NORTH AMERICAN STYLE
RELATIONAL
PHILANTHROPIC
PEACEBUILDING



The 131 graduates of the Class of 2024 are now heading out into the world, as bridge-builders in a war-torn world. Imagine their impact, sharing a message of peace in the 22 languages of the graduating class: English, Albanian, Armenian, Belarusian, Bulgarian, Farsi, Georgian, German, Greek, Hindi, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Latvian, Lithuanian, Pashto, Romanian, Russian, Scots, Serbian, Tajik, Turkish, Ukrainian.

LCC hosted a screening of the powerful documentary “Against All Odds” to mark the 2nd year of the war in Ukraine. **U.S. Ambassador** Kara McDonald facilitated meaningful conversations about resilience, unity, and solidarity in the face of adversity.

Dr. Larry Locke, Associate Dean of Business, along with Dr. Todd Chesebro and Mark Howell from the **University of Mary Hardin-Baylor** (Texas) offered various lectures in International Relations and Development during their visit to LCC.

Rita Kapeniece-Klauža (Project Coordinator) and Erika Lauberga-Sleže (International Relations and Project Specialist) from **Riga Technical University**, Liepāja Academy, along with their student intern from the Czech Republic explored opportunities for Erasmus student exchange, incoming student programming, and success stories.

Canadian Ambassador Jeanette Eileen Sautner, along with Counsellor Nicolas Lepage, visited LCC and met with the founding board of directors, Art and Leona DeFehr, and Rene Neumann.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Miroslav Svoboda from **Anglo-American University** in Prague, Czech Republic visited LCC and met LCC Academic Vice President Christopher Howard regarding governance and management structures at both universities. Dr. Svoboda was also introduced to LCC staff and faculty members, highlighting the similarities between institutions.

During **Georgian Ambassador** Salome Shapakidze’s visit, students took the stage with a presentation about the history of Georgia, followed by the gripping film “Bad People” by Giorgi Tavartkiladze. The highlight of the event was a thought-provoking panel discussion with Ambassador Shapakidze.



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FACULTY & STAFF INTERNATIONAL VISITS

GEORGIA

Academic Vice President, Dr. Christopher Howard, visited Ilia State University. During his visit, Chris shared his expertise in Strategic Management and Leadership with students and faculty at the School of Business, Technology, and Education. Collaborating with Professor Resan Kikava, Chris delivered insightful presentations, fostering knowledge exchange and mutual learning.

HUNGARY

Dr. Andrew Williams, Assistant Professor of International Relations and Development, visited Budapest Metropolitan University. During his visit, Andrew delivered lectures on foundational aspects of human rights, engaging students in thought-provoking discussions on their contemporary applications. He also shared a draft paper addressing the intersection of paternalism and religion within the development sector.

TURKEY

Jolanta Kaun, LCC Library Director, and Beata Girskienė, Information Resource Manager, participated in a five-day mobility program at Koc University Library in Istanbul. The program was an excellent opportunity to engage with fellow librarians. They attended several lectures on key topics such as library digitization initiatives and the application of AI in library services.

SPAIN

Katherine Marie Handal Gabriele, an English Language Center Instructor and Academic Support Coordinator, participated in a training entitled "Identifying Barriers to Learning: A Special Educational Needs Masterclass" in Barcelona. The training covered the most common learning difficulties, how these can be identified, formally diagnosed and ultimately supported in a positive and effective way for all.

IRELAND

Mikayla Gainor, Residence Director, participated in a training entitled "Team Building Skills for Higher Education Staff" in Galway. The course examined topics such as team development, team roles, group dynamics, and conflict management and considered the role of teamwork within the culture of higher education.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Mischa Cantu Blake, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Communication, visited Anglo-American University in Prague. Mischa shared her expertise on Media Studies and Documentary Filmmaking.



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As part of the practical application of their course work, LCC students visit local businesses each year.

LIFESHAPE

The Annual Student Leadership Retreat organized by Lifeshape (the foundation associated with Chick-fil-A) was filled with valuable insights, networking opportunities, and personal growth. Students explored the 6 I's of Leadership, delving into foundational principles that can elevate their leadership abilities and understanding. In Summer 2024, 45 LCC students had the incredible opportunity to work at various Chick-fil-A restaurants in the United States.

VLANTANA

Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management students visited this logistics and transportation company. The Head of Business Development talked about his department's operations, tasks performed by different teams within the Commercial Department, and various employment opportunities. Students were invited to enter the trailer truck driver's cabin and see the surroundings through the eyes of a driver.

LAVANGO

Fifteen senior students majoring in International Business Administration, along with guest faculty member Harm Hilvers from CHE, in the Netherlands, visited the Klaipeda Port Authority. They also received a tour of the Lavango company to learn about their operations.

EY

31 International Business Administration students visited EY (a global consulting company) in Vilnius to learn about their work processes and potential internship and employment opportunities.



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Students have multiple opportunities for involvement each year.

GLOBAL VILLAGE.

In February, our buildings came alive with the aromas of cuisines from many of the 60 countries, creating a dynamic food market atmosphere filled with laughter, smiles, vibrant outfits, and unique dances.

THE COGNITION FAIR

brought BA Psychology students together with their peers to participate into memory experiments, putting into practice the theory they have learned.

THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

awards ceremony recognized our current student leaders. By participating in the program, up to 70 students had the opportunity to develop their leadership skills through service.

COOKING AROUND THE WORLD

was an exciting culinary adventure where students prepared delicious dishes from Georgia, Ukraine, and Belarus while also learning about each culture and enjoying time together.

100 DAYS BEFORE GRADUATION.

This annual tradition is one of the final opportunities for senior students to be together as a community- to take as many fancy photos and selfies as they might ever want, and to begin to understand the upcoming transition from LCC students to LCC alumni. This year's event included over 120 students.

A WEEK OF GIVING BACK.

Our Student Council organized this volunteer week - which attracted 46 volunteers and a total of 217 hours of service through a blood drive at the Red Cross, support for the animal shelter and campus clean-up.



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The Study Abroad and Student Exchange programs are integral to LCC's identity and educational model.

STUDY ABROAD AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS

In Fall 2023, 9 Study Abroad and 22 Exchange students, along with 5 student leaders and staff members, went on an unforgettable trip to the beautiful cities of Riga and Tallinn.

This trip gave them a chance to learn about the rich history of these old Baltic cities.

The students enjoyed walking through the cobblestone streets, visited historical sites, and experienced the local cuisines.



FALL 2023	9 Study Abroad 22 Exchange
SPRING 2024	10 Study Abroad 7 Exchange
SUMMER 2024	12 Study Abroad

In Spring 2024, 10 Study Abroad students embarked on a memorable 9-day trip to Georgia, immersing themselves in its rich culture, history, and stunning landscapes.



The LCC Moose Basketball program is unique. It connects studies and sports, blends different international basketball cultures, developing individuals into great leaders and players. The student-athletes have maintained a grade-point average of more than 9 out of 10 this year.

An amazing basketball season for the LCC Moose women's basketball team. In their 4th year of existence, the young women's team earned:

- 2nd place in the Queen's Cup
- 2nd place in the Baltic League
- 2nd place in the Lithuanian National Championship

The LCC Moose men's basketball team has shown incredible resilience throughout the season. Despite facing numerous injuries, they fought hard in every game. 8 players from our men's team and the first player from our women's team graduated this year.

Klaipėda mayor Arvydas Vaitkus and his colleagues hosted the "Moose" Women's team, congratulating them on their athletic achievements and thanking them for proudly representing the city in national and international tournaments.



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EXPLORING ALUMNI SUCCESS

AYATTILLO AZIMOV, RECIPIENT OF THE 2024 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Ayattillo, Class of 2013, from Kazakhstan, moved quickly from LCC student to CEO & Founder of Global Coffee, redefining the industry with over 140 locations across Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Georgia.

Ayattillo's journey from LCC to global entrepreneur is a reflection on the transformative impact of his university education.

The supportive community and education he received at LCC equipped him with the skills, knowledge, and values necessary to navigate the world and make a meaningful difference.



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Fabian, Class of 2007; Albania, translator 01
Vitaly, Class of 2004; Moldova, in Washington State, pastor 02
Ali, Class of 2017; Kazakhstan, owner of employment agency 03
Sergiu, Class of 2018; Moldova, head of commerce at Lavango in Lithuania 04
Olga, Class of 2012; Moldova, manager at Ignitis in Lithuania
Dan, Class of 2012; Moldova, manager
Linus, Class of 1996; Lithuania, CEO at Megamiestas; With his daughter at the Open Day 05
Aušra, Class of 1996; Lithuania, VP at Under Armour, Inc. in USA; LCC board member 06
Vaidilė, Class of 1996; Lithuania, counselor in Toronto, Canada

THE CENTER FOR DIALOGUE AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

BUILDING RESILIENCY AT THE CROSSROADS OF PERSECUTION, WAR & HIGHER EDUCATION

In November, LCC hosted Murad Ismael who delivered a lecture entitled “How to build resiliency at the crossroads of persecution, war & higher education.”

Murad is a Yazidi from Sinjar. He finished school in Iraqi Kurdistan and holds two masters’ degrees in Environmental Engineering and Geophysics from Norwich University and University of Houston. Murad was part of a Yazidi delegation to hold high-level meetings with representatives at

LCC’s peace center, grounded in Christian faith, offers opportunities for building bridges of trust, transforming relationships, and equipping communities. The center aims to strengthen, transform, and sustain servant change agents towards the creation of a more just and peaceful world.

the White House when ISIS carried out a genocidal attack against the Yazidi minority in August 2014. He shared the challenges that arise when bringing international attention even to something as horrific as genocide.




Murad stressed the importance of building a resilient mindset at every stage of humanitarian work as progress can be slow with much frustration along the way. LCC, together with our Yazidi students, was honored by his visit.



Video from the event:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9T0GAZ3NpSw>

INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY

In September, LCC students, faculty, and staff observed a moment of silence to reflect, pray for, and recognize places of conflict. The day was marked by three key events:

-  A period of reflection and prayer,
-  A solidarity activity where faculty and students wove a yarn circle in the DeFehr lobby to highlight the need for peace,
-  The Village of Migration event which offered insights into the realities of migration concluding with participants sharing their personal migration stories through drawings.

LIVING WITH FRAGILE IDENTITIES CONFERENCE

In February, LCC hosted the Living with Fragile Identities conference with 101 participants from 23 countries. Dr. Duncan Morrow, from Northern Ireland, underscored identity as a relational, whole-body experience woven into human stories.

Workshops on communication and harm were led by various experts, with Lebanese peacebuilder Raffi Feghali facilitating interactive theater experiences that

prompted participants to delve into their own identities.

From engaging speeches to interactive workshops, the LWFI peace conference was a testament to the power of dialogue and the importance of asking critical questions.



Pathways to Peace is a program that provides university education to students from war-impacted countries, the opportunity to receive post-secondary education, long-term career opportunities, and a pathway to a new life in a safe and supportive community. From 2016, when our Middle East Scholars program began until today with our newly named Pathways to Peace program, LCC has served hundreds of students.

LCC is excited to be participating with the philanthropic entrepreneurs of CYCLE 5 TO SURVIVE.

CYCLE 5 TO SURVIVE

P.L. and Kristen Meindertsma have combined their love of cycling with a desire to help those less fortunate by creating 'Cycle 5 to Survive' (C5TS).

They have set out to use their Time, Talent, and Treasures to raise money and awareness for charities so they can fulfill their purposes of creating cycles of opportunity through sports, education, or business.

This purpose is based on their diverse skill sets: Kristen brings education to the table, while P.L.'s background in business drives

them forward with a focus on success. And they wouldn't have met if it weren't for sports!

Their idea wasn't born as a fleeting thought; instead, it emerged from a desire for P.L. wanting to find more meaning in life, and by the mutual celebration of his 50th birthday and Kristen's 55th birthday in 2022.

Using the number '5' – representative of their ages, they have set out on an incredible journey: they are pledged to traverse five continents on bicycles over the next five years while partnering with five different charities along the way in the hopes of raising \$500,000 CAD for each charity.

What began as a dream evolved into reality through C5TS—a reality that is helping make positive changes in the world.

- 2023 included their North American trip.
- 2024 is all about Europe. Departed from Vancouver, Canada on July 25, 2024 - at LCC the first week of September 2024.



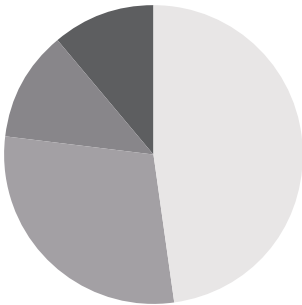
2023-2024 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

1,000,000 USD is the estimated value of the contributed services of faculty/ staff, and other volunteer services (not included in the annual budget).

LCC is a debt free institution.

4,259,800

INCOME - USD



Tuition	48%
LCC Annual Fund	29%
Residence Hall Income	12%
Other Income	11%

4,196,569

EXPENSES - USD



Instructional Expenses	28%
Institutional Support	25%
Maintenance of Plant	17%
Student Services	16%
Academic Support	14%

1,230,877

ANNUAL FUND DONATIONS - USD

The main purpose of the Annual Fund is to sustain the operations of the university and to ensure the funds to offer scholarships and high-quality education to students who otherwise would not be able to afford it. Many students find it very hard to pay the full yearly tuition plus living expenses.

Our goal each year is to invite donors to the Annual Fund, evaluate the individual need of each student, and provide financial support, enabling them to experience the North American style education at LCC. We are grateful for each individual gift, which impacts the transformation of these future leaders.

DONATIONS TO ANNUAL FUND BY REGION



Canada	51%
US	38%
Europe	11%

ANNUAL FUND

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY FUNDING

MIDDLE EAST SCHOLARS PROGRAM

60,000 EUR

Funding available for war-affected students from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

BASKETBALL KLAIPĖDA MUNICIPALITY

129,600 EUR

City funding for women's basketball. Funds available for programs and scholarships.

RESEARCH FUNDING

197,000 EUR

Lithuanian Ministry of Education, Science and Sports.

INCENTIVE FUNDING FOR LCC ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

194,000 EUR

Lithuanian Ministry of Education, Science and Sports.

Most of our students, from developing economies and war-affected countries, require significant financial assistance in order to afford a university education. The average GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) of the top 10 countries where LCC students come from is 3 times lower than in the USA*

AVERAGE GDP PER CAPITA - USD

85,370	USA	25,690	Belarus
60,500	Canada	25,250	Georgia
50,600	Lithuania	21,750	Armenia
41,730	Latvia	15,460	Ukraine
38,290	Russia	6,900	Kyrgystan
34,530	Kazakhstan	2,456	Afghanistan**

524,174 EUR

AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED TO STUDENTS AS FINANCIAL AID THROUGH ANNUAL FUND

3,690 EUR

ANNUAL TUITION FOR BA STUDENTS

54 %

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED FINANCIAL AID

STUDENT NEED

We are excited to see the growth of our endowment funds.

Number of donors in LCC Heritage Society.
The Heritage Society honors the legacy of generous donors who wish to strengthen the university through estate plans.

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ENDOWMENT FUNDS

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Endowment funds provide long-term financial stability, help to support students who are in financial need, attract and retain faculty and staff, and contribute resources to various initiatives and projects on campus.

NAMED ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Currently, 17 named endowment funds are in place, with annual interest income helping students with their tuition and faculty with their research. Named endowment funds are activated at 25,000.

Hinderliter Endowed Faculty Fellowship Fund
Myrl Nofziger Endowed Scholarship Fund
Ted & Marylene Thiesen Endowed Scholarship Fund
Ronald & Sandra Cady Mulder Endowed Scholarship Fund
John & Sharon Cady Blom Endowed Scholarship Fund
Merrill & Priscilla Ewert Endowed Scholarship Fund
Henry H. Voth Endowed Scholarship Fund
Robin Gingerich Endowed Scholarship Fund
Malcolm & Sylvia Campbell Endowed Scholarship Fund
Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund
Frieda Wall Endowed Scholarship Fund
William I. Neufeld Endowed Scholarship Fund
Jayco Unrestricted Endowment Fund
Robert & Lynette Ewert Endowed Scholarship Fund
Timothy & Willemina Palmer Endowed Scholarship Fund
Evelyn Thomsen Endowed Scholarship Fund
Canadian Venture Fund

ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE AT YEAR END 2023-2024

1,458,778 USD

US Charity

6,233,236 CAD

Canadian Charity

ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE AT YEAR END 2022-2023

1,347,070 USD

US Charity

6,047,925 CAD

Canadian Charity

ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE AT YEAR END 2021-2022

1,215,926 USD

US Charity

5,973,664 CAD

Canadian Charity

ENDOWMENT PERFORMANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current Board of Directors Members

Roger Friesen – Chair
Senior Adviser/Business Development,
Palliser Furniture Ltd.
East St. Paul, Manitoba, Canada

Cornelia Horsch - Vice Chair
HORSCH Maschinen GmbH
Schwandorf, Germany

John Reynolds
President, LAPU
San Dimas, California, USA

Pär Lidåker
Owner, BJS Group AB
Bolmsö, Sweden

Jurgita Choromanskytė
Political Consultant, Lecturer
Klaipėda, Lithuania

Ausra Jakuboviene
Vice President, Transformation Office,
Under Armour Inc
Severna Park, Maryland, USA

D. Merrill Ewert
President Emeritus,
Fresno Pacific University
Topeka, Kansas USA

David Wallace
Chief Investment Officer,
Pomona College
Claremont, California, USA

John McQuaig
McQuaig and Welk, PLLC CEO
Wenatchee, Washington, USA

Andrew Kaethler
Academic Dean, Catholic Pacific College
Langley, British Columbia, Canada

Alexander Kharitonov
President, CCI/Russia
St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Andris Lanka
Owner, Valodu Vēstniecība
Liepāja, Latvia

Allon Lefever
President, AB Hospitality Company
Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA

Johann Matthies
Director, Multiply-MB Mission/Europe
and Central Asia Horn-Bad
Meinberg, Germany

Peter Tielmann
President, EQ3
East St. Paul, Manitoba, Canada

Shawn Neumann
CBTW Co-Founder & Partner,
Versett Partner
Brussels, Belgium

Art and Leona DeFehr
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Dennis and Rene Neumann
Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada

Otonas and Raimonda Balčiūnas
Carmel, Indiana, USA

Ed Buller
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Stanley Clark (deceased)
Emily, Minnesota, USA

Hansuli Gerber
Geneva, Switzerland

Todd Gibson
Seattle, Washington, USA

Bill Goff
Rome, Georgia, USA

Ben Sprunger
Nokomis, Florida, USA

Dwight Wyse
Harrisonburg, Virginia, USA

Founding Board of Directors Members

Board Emeritus Members

Ron Mulder
Holland, Michigan, USA

Russ and June Michealsen
Santa Barbara, California, USA

Gerald Neufeld
Delta, British Columbia, Canada

Myrl Nofziger
Goshen, Indiana, USA

Ken Penner
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Bruce and Marianne Konrad
Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada

Howard Loewen
Santa Clarita, California, USA

CABINET EXECUTIVE



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Marlene Wall, President 01
Marie Williams, Chief Operations Officer 02
Chris Howard, Vice President, Academics 03
Margarita Pavlovič, Vice President, Student Life 04



Marlene and Clint



Marius with basketball stars at LCC



Lilija- LCC Wellness Week



Marlene and Tomas

Marlene Clint
Lilija Marius Tomas

Marlene Wall, President
Clint Baldwin, Chief Advancement Officer
Marius Tamolis, Director of Basketball Programs
Lilija Druktenė, Director of Development
Tomas Šypalis, Executive Assistant

THANK YOU
FROM THE LCC
ADVANCEMENT TEAM



Afghanistan,
Albania, Armenia,
Belarus, Belgium,
Brazil, Bulgaria,
Canada, China,
Croatia, Ecuador,
Estonia, Finland,
France, Georgia,
Germany, Greece,
Honduras,
Hungary, India,
Indonesia, Iran,
Iraq, Japan,
Kazakhstan,
Kenya, Kosovo,
Kyrgyzstan, Latvia,
Lesotho, Lithuania,
Macedonia,
Moldova,
Mongolia,
Montenegro,
Morocco,
Mozambique,
Nepal,
Netherlands,
Pakistan, Panama,
Romania, Russia,
Serbia, South
Korea, Spain,
Sri Lanka, Sudan,
Sweden, Syria,
Tajikistan, Tanzania,
Thailand, Turkey,
Turkmenistan,
Ukraine,
United Kingdom,
USA, Uzbekistan,
Vietnam, Zambia.

**61 COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED
AT LCC THIS YEAR**



PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT TO LCC

GIVE ONLINE AT

WWW.LCC.LT/DONATE

SEND A CHECK

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